MEDIA RELEASE



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County Executive announces COVID-19 Rumor Hotline for Erie County

Erie, PA – County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper today announced that no new confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 have been reported in Erie County. The Erie County Department of Health is investigating all the confirmed cases for their lifestyles, work, locations, daily routines and more.

The environmental task force inspectors at the Erie County Department of Health continue to conduct inspections and help local businesses to be in compliance.

A list of <u>life-sustaining businesses</u> is available on the COVID-19 page on eriecountypa.gov for those who need clarification. The link to apply for a waiver can also be found at eriecountypa.gov.

Dahlkemper also announced the launch of a new **COVID-19 Rumor Hotline – 814-451-6986** – for Erie County, Pa., residents to call with rumors, gossip or questions. The lines are open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Melissa Lyon, director of the Erie County Department of Health, joined Dahlkemper in reinforcing the importance of the stay-at-home order.

"Assume that everyone has COVID-19, and think about how you would interact with them if they did," Lyon said. "We are asking you to not only think about those you know and care about, but about every other person that you don't know, too. Please, stay at home and don't invite guests to visit your home. Following these guidelines will help protect you, your loved ones, and our community."

At this time, law enforcement will be focused on ensuring that residents are aware of the stay-athome order and informing the public of social distancing practices rather than enforcement.

As a reminder, the public should call 911 **only** for life-threatening emergencies.

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For inquiries or concerns related to COVID-19 in Erie County, please contact the Erie County Department of Health at ecdhinfo@eriecountypa.gov or 814-451-6700. For more information related to COVID-19, visit eriecountypa.gov. ###